

Bill no.:	HR 3893
Amendment no.:	29
H.L.C.	
Date offered:	9/28/05
Disposition:	Not Agreed to by 16 yeas and 28 nays

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3893

OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL AND MR. ALLEN

At the end of title III, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 305. NATIONAL REPLACEMENT TIRE EFFICIENCY PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) STANDARDS FOR REPLACEMENT TIRES.—Section
4 30123 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
6 lows:

7 “(b) UNIFORM QUALITY GRADING SYSTEM, NOMEN-
8 CLATURE, AND MARKETING PRACTICES.—

9 “(1) UNIFORM GRADING SYSTEM.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
11 prescribe through standards a uniform quality
12 grading system for motor vehicle replacement
13 tires to help consumers make an informed
14 choice when purchasing tires.

15 “(B) INCLUSION.—The grading system
16 shall include standards for rating the fuel effi-
17 ciency of replacement tires designed for use on
18 passenger cars and light trucks.

19 “(2) NOMENCLATURE AND MARKETING.—The
20 Secretary also shall cooperate with industry and the



1 Federal Trade Commission to the greatest extent
2 practicable to eliminate deceptive and confusing tire
3 nomenclature and marketing practices. A replace-
4 ment tire standard or regulation prescribed under
5 this chapter supersedes an order or administrative
6 interpretation of the Commission.”; and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(d) NATIONAL REPLACEMENT TIRE EFFICIENCY
9 PROGRAM.—

10 “(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
11 ‘fuel economy’, with respect to a replacement tire,
12 means the extent to which the tire contributes to the
13 fuel economy of the motor vehicle on which the re-
14 placement tire is mounted.

15 “(2) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall develop
16 and carry out a national replacement tire fuel effi-
17 ciency program for replacement tires designed for
18 use on passenger cars and light trucks.

19 “(3) REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than March
20 31, 2008, the Secretary shall implement—

21 “(A) policies and procedures for testing
22 and labeling replacement tires for fuel economy
23 to enable tire buyers to make informed pur-
24 chasing decisions about the fuel economy of re-
25 placement tires;



1 “(B) policies and procedures to promote
2 the purchase of energy-efficient replacement
3 tires, including purchase incentives, website list-
4 ings on the Internet, printed fuel economy
5 guide booklets, and mandatory requirements for
6 tire retailers to provide tire buyers with fuel-ef-
7 ficiency information on replacement tires; and

8 “(C) minimum fuel economy standards for
9 replacement tires, promulgated by the Sec-
10 retary.

11 “(4) MINIMUM FUEL ECONOMY STANDARDS.—
12 In promulgating minimum fuel economy standards
13 for replacement tires, the Secretary shall design
14 standards that—

15 “(A) ensure that the average fuel economy
16 of replacement tires is equal to or better than
17 the average fuel economy of tires sold as origi-
18 nal equipment;

19 “(B) secure the maximum technically fea-
20 sible and cost-effective fuel savings;

21 “(C) do not adversely affect tire safety;

22 “(D) incorporate the results from labora-
23 tory testing and, to the extent appropriate and
24 available, on-road fleet testing programs con-
25 ducted by manufacturers; and



1 “(E) do not adversely affect efforts to
2 manage scrap tires.

3 “(5) APPLICABILITY.—The policies, procedures,
4 and standards developed under paragraph (3) shall
5 apply to all replacement tire types and models regu-
6 lated under the uniform tire quality grading stand-
7 ards in section 575.104 of title 49, Code of Federal
8 Regulations (or a successor regulation).

9 “(6) REVIEW.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less than once
11 every 3 years, the Secretary shall—

12 “(i) review the minimum fuel economy
13 standards in effect for replacement tires
14 under this subsection; and

15 “(ii) subject to subparagraph (B), re-
16 vise the standards as necessary to ensure
17 compliance with standards under para-
18 graph (4).

19 “(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may
20 not reduce the average fuel economy standards
21 applicable to replacement tires.

22 “(7) NO PREEMPTION OF STATE LAW.—Noth-
23 ing in this section preempts any provision of State
24 law relating to higher fuel economy standards appli-



1 cable to replacement tires designed for use on pas-
2 senger cars and light trucks.

3 “(8) EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in this section
4 shall apply to—

5 “(A) a tire or group of tires with the prod-
6 uct identifying number, plant, and year, for
7 which the volume of tires produced or imported
8 is less than 15,000 annually;

9 “(B) a deep tread, winter-type snow tire,
10 space-saver tire, or temporary use spare tire;

11 “(C) a tire with a normal rim diameter of
12 12 inches or less;

13 “(D) a motorcycle tire; or

14 “(E) a tire manufactured specifically for
15 use in an off-road motorized recreational vehi-
16 cle.”.”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
18 30103(b)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended
19 by striking “When” and inserting “Except as provided in
20 section 30123(d), when”.

21 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Beginning not later than
22 March 31, 2008, the Secretary of Transportation shall ad-
23 minister the national replacement tire fuel efficiency pro-
24 gram established under section 30123(d) of title 49,
25 United States Code, in accordance with the policies, proce-



- 1 dures, and standards developed under section 30123(d)(2)
- 2 of such title.

In the table of content, after the item relating to section 304, insert the following:

305. National replacement tire efficiency program.

